FARM NEWS

By J. A. Smith, County Agent

Late Cutting of Alfalfa

Matter for Careful Thought

Alfalfa should be cut late in the season only after a careful choice has been made between future benefits and the present need for hay.

Agronomists at VPI say cutting alfalfa later than three to four weeks before the average date of the first killing frost does not allow time for maximum food storage before growth is stopped by cold weather. If you cut late, you can expect weaker stands, reduced yield the next year, and increased winter injury.

Since alfalfa will withstand a fairly severe frost, some growth will usually be made up to two weeks to a month after the average date of the first killing frost in the fall.

The greatest injury results when the last cutting is made at about the time of the average date of the first killing frost.

Grazing or removing a part of the last growth after growth stops in the fall is better than cutting during the critical period of from three to four weeks before the average date of the first killing frost and the time growth stops. The agronomists recommend leaving some growth or a mulch for protection of the crowns when alfalfa is cut or grazed after growth has stopped.

The problem is one of the most critical in alfalfa management, and is being studied by the VPI Agricultural Experiment Station.

Proper Handling of Tools Would Decrease Accidents

Proper handling and storage of farm tools would decrease farm accidents, says the Virginia Rural Safety Council.

National records show that the most common unsafe practices are (1) failure to use the right tool for the right job, (2) failure to keep tools in proper condition, and (3) failure to keep them in a safe place when not in use.

The Council offers these safety suggestions:

Keep wood handles firm and smooth to save injury to the hands by slivers. Keep blades of cutting tools sharp and scape or set them to the proper angle.

When the striking end of a cold chisel or other impact tool begins to crack and spread, smooth and dress it to prevent injury by splintering steel or glancing blows.

Grind screwdriver blades so that the tip has a square edge and a parallel surface; then it won't slip out of the slot so easily. Use the proper screwdriver for the job at hand.

Use wrenches that fit snugly to prevent injury caused by slipping. Don't use a piece of pipe in the handle to get more leverage.

Examine hammers, hatchets, and axes carefully to be sure there is no danger of the head flying off.

Keep tools and hnads free of grease.

Several Types of Pipe Available for Water Systems

A farmer or rural homemaker who is planning a home and farm water system has several decisions to make—among them, what type of pipe to use.

J. A. Waller, associate agricultural engineer at VPI, says the kinds of readily available pipe for farm use are galvanized steel pipe, copper pipe or tubing, and plastic pipe.

Here are some factors you need in choosing: underground soil corrosion, safe working pressures, effect of freezing, resistance to corrosion inside the pipe, effect on water flavor, effect of hot water, lengths available, comparative weight, ease of bending, comparative costs, and what size is needed to supply water to the different outlets.

Galvanized steel pipe has a protective coating (galvanizing) which greatly increases the life of the pipe as compared to black pipe. Its life may be less than 10 years in high-acid soils, or more than 30 years under good conditions. It will corrode in acid or alkaline waters and will accumulate lime deposits from hard water.

Steel pipe will burst if frozen solidly, but will withstand water pressures used on farms. It is highly resistant to puncturing, has little effect on water flavor, and hot water has no effect on it. It is available in 21-foot lengths and its weight is much greater than either copper or palstic pipes. It costs more than plastic but less than copper pipe.

Copper pipe or tubing is made in two weights, heavy duty and standard. The latter is most widely used on farms for underground work and in building. Both weights are available in hard-tempered and soft-tempered form.

Under most conditions standard copper is good for from 30 to 80 years. It is normally very resistant to corrosion, but may become perforated. Lime deposits do not form in it and it will stand a few freezes.

It is strong enough for pressures used on farms. It has little effect on water taste and hot water has no effect on it. The soft tempered form comes in coils from 60 to 100 feet long. The hard-tempered form comes in 12 and 20 foot lengths.

It is about 1-3 the weight and about twice as expensive as galvanized steel and about three times the weight and costs over three times as much as plastic pipe.

Plastic pipe is too new to have definitely established characteristics. We do not yet know its advantages or disadvantages. It is made from a variety of different plastic. The type most available at present is polyethylene.

The length of life of plastic pipe is not known but prelimnary evidence indicates that it has a long life under all soil conditions. It is very resistant to corrosion and to deposits forming inside the pipe. Because of the lasting smooth inside surface, the friction loss or pressure drop is relatively low.

For most farm applications plastic pipe has adequate pressure; however, the operating pressure should be known and pipe bought with a factor of safety. It punctures fairly easily, weakens with prolonged exposure to the sun, has no effect on water flavor, and will stand a little freezing.

It should not be used for water if the water temperature is over 140° F. It comes in coils. It weighs only about 1-8 as much as galvanized steel and 1-3 as much as standard copper pipe. It is not a conductor of electricity.

It costs considerably less than galvanized steel pipe and only about 1-3 as much as copper pipe.

ABOUT YOUR HOME

By Frances Dell

Gardening can be hard work—so hard that the pleasure is lost. When this is the case, usually one or all of six basic things are wrong. The design of the garden, choice of plants, pest control, wind and rain, soil management, and the use of equipment.

In the first place, be realistic! Keep in mind that many plans that look exciting on paper require far too much upkeep once they are installed. Clipping and edging can be a big problem. Work over your garden so that it will require as little labor as possible.

Your garden should be built around your interests, climate and soil. Beware of crowding plants. Crowding encourages pests.

Choose your plants very carefully. Choose hardy ones that can take both summer and winter without special care. They should be pest-resistant and have the correct habit of growth, and size to do the desired job.

Don't struggle with plants susceptible to mildew, blackspot, and Japanese beetle.

Space your plants generously. Don't try to keep a fast-growing giant evergreen chopped down to baby size.

Have the proper gardening equipment. It is foolish to do a lot of hard work by hand, or to pay someone else to, that some handy tool could do with half the effort and time.

Is He?

A cynic is a man who loves himself for the enemies he has made.
—The Grand Rapids Press.

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COMPLETE DISPERSAL SALE
534.8 ACRES MORE OR LESS
2.16 ACRES OF DARK TOBACCO ALLOTMENT
1.34 ACRES OF BRIGHT TOBACCO ALLOTMENT
11.4 ACRES OF WHEAT ALLOTMENT
1954 JEEP — TRACTOR & TRACTOR MACHINERY — 3,000 BALES OF HAY — SOME HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS
NOW OWNED BY JOHN C. CATHERINE
LOCATED ON STATE ROAD NO. 615 AND 6 MILES NORTHWEST OF RED HOUSE — 10 SOUTHEAST OF RUSTBURG AND 10 MILES OF GLADYS — CAMPBELL COUNTY, VA.
AT AUCTION
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21st 10:0
534.8 ACRES MORE OR LESS
Approximately 276 acres of open land in and cultivation. 22 acres in corn. 54 acres in and 110 acres in pasture. Balance of the wooded with some saw timber. Farm is we Falling Creek. The tobacco allotment is 2.1 of dark tobacco and 1.34 acres of bright The 1957 wheat allotment is 11.4 acres.
The buildings consist of a good frame residence with five rooms and bath with supplied by an electric pump from a nearby Also telephone service. This residence is in condition inside and outside. The outbu clude a fram cattle barn implement shed, a four room tenant house and other small outbuildings. All buildings are in good repair
This is considered one of the finest farms in bell County as the present owner has been tinually improving the farm with lime and Well located on a hard surface road just distance from Lynchburg, Rustburg, Brookne Appomattox.
LIST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
2500 Bales of Alfalfa hay
400 Bales of Barley & Alfalfa hay
100 Bales of Straw
1 Case Diesel Tractor - Model 300
1 1954 Jeep (4 new tires)
1 New Holland Hay Baler (Model 77)
1 Rome Disc Harrow (Model M5-31) with out disc and standard equipment - for bulldozer)
1 New Holland Rake
1 New Holland Spreader (Model 300)
1 (TA7) Case Mower with highcut attachment (Highcut attachment will fit a Ford)
1 (EH3) Case Heavy Duty Mower
1 Case (104) front end loader with
1 Case Corn Planter with fertilizer
1 (EP 24) Case plow
1 Case Harrow (Pick Up Type)
1 New Holland Wood Saw
1 Case Harvester
1 Snowco Hay Loader, 24 ft. Mayrath (3.6 HP Motor)
1 New Holland Wagon
1 Ferguson Subsoiler
1 Hamill Cultivator
1 Vestal Cultipacker and Seeder
1 Myers Jet Pump mounted on trailer with 250 gal. tank
1 Sears Roebuck Hammermill
1 Paint Sprayer with cart
1 Marquette Electric Welder (model
1 Oliver Drill (steel wheels)
1 Allstate one wheel trailer (500 lb.
Lots of small hand tools
Some house hold furnishings
Most of this farm equipment was purchased last three years.
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WEATHER

We breathe com- ...ds have to use ...10,000 ...oxygen in the ...seconds? ...rounds the earth ...gen for all of ...lower we call ...more nitrogen ...per cent to only ...Nevertheless, ...we must have. ...passenger, climbing ...begins to ex- ...a deficiency of ...to 14,000 feet—...or 12,000 feet. ...It is often un- ...ability, and tests ...in the oxygen ...that pilot- ...before they re- ...that they were in

Therefore, oxygen tanks are carried in fighter planes and supplemental oxygen is released in the passenger compartments of passenger or bomber planes.

The supply of oxygen does not run out at 10,000 or 11,000 feet, but it becomes less because the air is thinning out. This thinning of the air has been the limiting factor in flying to great altitudes in the past, because the air becomes so thin at high altitudes that aircraft control surfaces had little effect. Jet propulsion, and rockets, have greatly lessened this problem.

Evergreen

Evergreen, Sept. 17.- The Willing Workers Circle met in the home of Mrs. Emmitt Paulette last Tuesday evening, with good attendance. Mrs. Elmer Greene taught a mission study book, How To Pray.

The Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Smith, and family, of Exmore, Va., and the Rev. D. L. Bailey, of Warwick, were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Hamilton and family last week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Bruce and family spent the week-end at Port Royal, Va., with his mother, Mrs. Eva Snowden.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Jennings and family, of Cambria, Va., spent the week-end with his mother, Mrs. Ella Jennings.

Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Thompson, and Mrs. Mary Sullivan, of Lynchburg spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Glover.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hubbard, of Petersburg, spent Thursday with her brother, A. A. LeCrand and family.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Farrar Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Blount and son, of Roanoke, and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Beeler, of Salem, Va.

Mrs. H. C. Staples returned home Sunday from visiting her mother, Mrs. Minnie Butler, who is in a hospital at Carrsville, Va. She is improving.

Mrs. Ernest Farrar is improving at her home, after having a sprained ankle.

Mr. Henry C. Staples, Jr., of the Roanoke Business College, spent the week-end at his home here.

Miss Audrey Duke and Mr. Wilson Butler were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Staples Sunday.

Subscription rate: $2.00 a year; payable in advance.

Richwood

Richwood, Sept. 17.- "Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished, but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered."
—Proverb.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Dody, of Washington are spending some time at their place here.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Ferguson and daughters, Judy and Jane visited Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Wooldridge.

G. P. Brannan and daughter, Georgie Bells were in Lynchburg on business Monday.

A. B. Hunter, Jr., spent the week-end with his family here.

Health and Beauty

Did you know that, on an average, one person dies and four are permanently disabled every sixteen minutes as a result of home accidents?

Many of the most crippling accidents occur by falling down stairways and even steps of not more than 3 or 4. There should be substantial banisters to all steps in a house.

It is appalling to see the women, mounted on high heels, wearing long house coats that trail on soiled floors. These garments not only gather up germs and filth but they often cause their wearers to trip and fall, sometimes with very serious consequences.

So many accidents occur in the house that someone is temporarily put out of commission every seven seconds.- The greater portion of these casualties occur in the kitchen.

Frequently, the daily paper reports an explosion caused from lighting a stove with kerosene. Where the person pours the oil directly from the can, ignition takes place and the flames run into the can. The victim often is burned alive. The house catches fire and a terrible tragedy results.

Even little children often are victims of the carelessness of older people. It is better to use newspapers and a little dry wood or kindling to start a fire. It can be done quickly in this way. If there is a very small flame among the coals, you may not see it, but it will cause the kerosene to blaze and an explosion follows.

Cleaning clothes with an inflammable liquid near the gas stove has been the cause of many serious accidents and burns that sometimes prove fatal. Leaving poisons around the kitchen is a potent and frequent cause of danger.

The person that neglects reading labels on bottles and containers often poisons a whole family by dumping a deadly poison into food that is being prepared for a meal. It is no excuse to say, "I was in a hurry and I thought that I knew what I was putting in the food.

Carelessly climbing on chairs or step ladders often causes fearful results. I have known broken bones due to falls that invalided people for life.

Floors that are too highly polished, or a little spot of oil or grease in which the foot slides or slips will often cause a devastating fall.

It is easy to turn the handles of pots towards the back of the stove, yet so mmay cooks leave them sticking out where they are apt to catch in the sleeve or be brushed against. They come down, spilling boiling liquid on the unfortunate victim or victims.

Cuts are usually caused from carelessness. Holding the knife toward the person is one frequent cause of severe cuts and dangerous accidents.

RESTFUL VACATION

Ames, Iowa.- If you want a really restful vacation, you can follow the example of an Ames business woman. She laid in a supply of books, magazines and food. She then had the telephone disconnected. After a week of this she returned to her job, completely refreshed.

SAFE IN RUNAWAY CAR

Conshohocken, Pa.- Little Joan Ann Hagen, 2, was left in the car while her mother went into a laundry. Suddenly the car started rolling down a steep hill and crashed into a truck. Little Joan Ann was knocked to the floor but was unhurt except for a scratch on her chin.

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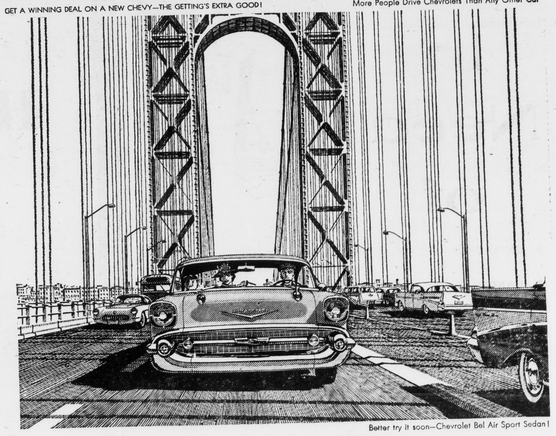

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